

REMARKS

Claims 10-21 remain pending in the application with the present amendments. In the Office Action, all claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,860,083 to Sukegawa ("*Sukegawa*") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,832,379 to Zeryck et al. ("*Zeryck*"). For the reasons set forth below, applicant submits that the presently amended claims overcome the rejections. Consideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

One function of the invention recited in the presently pending claims, viz. claim 10, is to permit the execution of a function when an electronic device is mounted to a selected main equipment selected from a plurality of main equipments, each of which is operable in accordance with a respective one of a plurality of different computer operating environments. For this purpose, an output unit of the electronic device is operable to output to the main equipment a portion of the software data containing driver data for a selected function and corresponding to the respective computer operating environment. In that way, the selected function can be executed using the electronic device while the electronic device is mounted to the selected main equipment.

Clearly, these features of the present invention are neither taught nor suggested by *Sukegawa* or *Zeryck*. *Sukegawa* merely describes a system which expands system memory using a flash memory unit. *Sukegawa* neither teaches nor suggests a detachable memory unit which stores a plurality of portions of data each containing driver data, each portion for permitting execution of a respective one of a plurality of separately selectable functions when the electronic device is mounted to selected main equipment which may have one of a plurality of different computer operating environments. Nor does *Sukegawa* teach or suggest outputting a selected portion of the software

data to the selected main equipment for the respective one of the different computer operating environments.

Zeryck does not provide the teachings which Sukegawa lacks with respect to the presently claimed invention. Zeryck merely describes a layered device driver system which permits device drivers to be installed or removed. (See col. 10, lns. 25-43). Zeryck neither teaches nor suggests the storage and outputting of software data to a main equipment corresponding to a selected function of a plurality of separately selectable functions and corresponding to the particular computer operating environment of a selected main equipment. Zeryck merely describes installation and removal of device drivers. In combination, Sukegawa and Zeryck neither teach nor suggest the invention as recited in claim 10.

Claims 13 and 16, which contain similar recitations, are also distinguished over Sukegawa and Zeryck for the reasons discussed above.

Moreover, the recitations of claim 11 are neither taught nor suggested by the combination of Sukegawa, and Zeryck. As recited in claim 11, the software data containing driver data for permitting execution of a function are stored in the data memory unit using a file format. However, no such description appears in Sukegawa. Sukegawa merely describes storing control information from a computer system to the flash memory unit, but not the storage of driver data using a file format. In addition, the cited passage of Zeryck at col. 9, lns. 45-52 does not refer to a file format, or to files. Similar recitations are also found in claims 14 and 17.

Support for the present amendments is provided, *inter alia*, at paragraphs [0025] through [0039] of the Specification.

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been fully met, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. If,

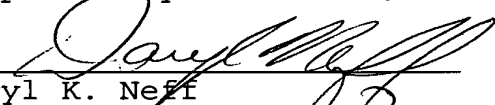
however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

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Respectfully submitted,

By



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